

TWO NEOTROPICAL TAXA OF
DALECHAMPIA (EUPHORBIACEAE)

1. *Dalechampia hutchinsoniana* Webster, sp. nov.

Frutex 1.5 m altus, ramis stramineis laevibus. *Folia* simplicia, glabrata, elliptica vel oblonga, argute serrulata, apiculata, ca 1.5-3 cm longa, 0.5-1 cm lata, ad basin quintuplinervia, petiolis 1-3 mm longis; stipulae lanceolatae, acuminatae, 2.5-6 mm longae, striato-costatae. *Inflorescentiae* solitariae, pseudo-axillares, pedunculis glabratis ca 3-6 cm longis; bractae involucrales obovatae, atro-sanguineae, glabratae, quintuplinerviae, lacerato-dentatae, unguiculatae, ca 2-2.5 cm longae, 1 cm latae, stipellis lanceolatis 4-7 mm longis; bractae cymae ♀ scariosae, minute hispidulae, ca 2.5 mm longae; bractae pleiochasis primariae 4, subrotundatae vel oblongae, concavae, evidenter glabratae (minutissime hispidulae), multinervosae, ca 3.5-4 mm longae, 3.5-6 mm latae, ± liberae; nectarium ca 5-6 mm latum, e bracteolis tenuibus fimbriatis pluribus compositum. *Flores* ♂ ca 9 in quoque pleiochasio, pedicellis ad 3 mm longis; lacinae calycis saepe 4, oblongo-lanceolatae, minute hispidulae, 2.5-3 mm longae; columna staminalis cylindrica, dense hispidula, 2-2.3 mm longa, antheris 24-28, ca 0.5-0.6 mm longis. *Flores* ♀ 3, pedicellis ca 1.5 mm longis; lacinae calycis 7-9, lineari-lanceolatae, ca 4-6 mm longae, pinnatifido-laciniatae, laciniis glandulosis, glandulis intersepals paucis ca 0.2 mm longis; ovarium fere 1 mm longum, dense hispidulum; columna stylaris ca 3.5-4 mm longa, 0.5-0.6 mm lata, minute hispidula, stigmatate dilatato-emarginato 1.2-1.3 mm diam. *Capsulae* ut semina ignotae.

PERU. PROV CELENDIN: Dept Cajamarca, cliffs below bridge, Río Marañon opposite Balsas, 800 m, 30 May 1964, *Hutchinson & Wright 5446* (holotype MO; isotypes DAV, UC).

This striking species, which appears to be endemic to a restricted region in northern Peru, is not closely related to any other. The shrubby stems, simple palmatinerved leaves, and pinnately lobed sepals suggest a relationship to sect. *Humiles* Pax & Hoffm. (Pflanzenr. **IV**, 147, XII: 53, 1919). However, the dark reddish unguiculate involucral bracts and larger stamen number immediately distinguish it from any species in that section. The bracts and androecium of *D. hutchinsoniana* to some extent resemble those found in species of sect. *Dioscoreifoliae* Pax & Hoffm., but all of those plants are twining vines. Probably this Peruvian species will have to be placed in a new supraspecific taxon.

2. *Dalechampia cissifolia* Poepp. & Endl. subsp. **panamensis** (Pax & Hoffm.) Webster, stat. nov.

Dalechampia panamensis Pax & Hoffm., Pflanzenr. **IV**, 147, XII (Heft 68): 19, 1919.

The taxonomic identity of the only Panamanian *Dalechampia* with compound leaves has remained rather uncertain up to the present. Mueller (Prodr. **15**(2): 1241, 1866) based his *D. stenosepala* on a Brazilian collection of Sello as well as one from Costa Rica (mistakenly ascribed to Panama by Mueller: 'inter Jose et

Puntarenas', Oersted; B, n.v.). Pax & Hoffmann (loc. cit.) restricted the name *D. stenosepala* to the Brazilian plant and separated the Central American plant as *D. panamensis*.

In their treatment of the species in sect. *Triphyllae*, Pax & Hoffmann placed *D. panamensis* adjacent to *D. cissifolia*, with which it is indubitably closely related. The leaf characters given in their key are most unconvincing as the Panama plants often have distinctly dentate rather than 'subentire' leaflets. The only characteristics in which Peruvian specimens of *D. cissifolia* appear to differ significantly include longer fruiting pedicels (up to 4 cm long) and calyx-lobes (up to 1.5 cm long as compared to 1 cm for Panamanian specimens).

It seems most reasonable to treat the Central American representatives of this complex as a subspecies of *D. cissifolia*; the South American plants would then fall into subsp. *cissifolia*. It is probable that *D. stenosepala* should also be included in *D. cissifolia*, but until critical comparisons are made no change in its status is suggested.—Grady Webster, University of California, Davis.

A REMARKABLE NEW PHYLLANTHUS (EUPHORBIACEAE) FROM CENTRAL AMERICA

During the preparation of a synopsis of the American taxa of *Phyllanthus* (Webster, ined.), it has proven necessary to describe a number of novelties. Among these is a Central American plant which occupies such an isolated position that it deserves special treatment. Although most of the New World species of *Phyllanthus* can be fitted into the classification proposed for the West Indian ones (Webster, Jour. Arnold Arb. **37-39**, 1956-58), there are certain species which definitely do not belong to any of the previously established taxa; these, of course, are the most interesting ones.

The great majority of the woody species of American *Phyllanthus* belong to two subgenera with areolate pollen: *Botryanthus* and *Xylophylla*. However, others belong to the strictly American subg. *Conami*, and a few seem best classified in either the woody subgenera *Kirganelia* and *Emblica*¹ or the mainly herbaceous subg. *Phyllanthus*. The South American species include a number of aberrant taxa which will be given detailed treatment later. In contrast, only a single North American species—the one described below—cannot easily fit into the subgeneric taxa already established. It, therefore, is necessary to create a new section for the species at the same time that it is formally described.

Phyllanthus section **Calodictyon**, sect. nov.

¹*Phyllanthus* subg. **Emblica** (Gaertn.) Webster, stat. nov., based on *Emblica* Gaertn., Fruct. Sem. **2**: 122, 1790.